

Up to March 28

NORTH VIETNAM

wasn
DS531
V6308++

1,742

U. S. AIRCRAFT DOWNED

VIETNAM COURIER

April 3

1967

No 104

4th Year

INFORMATION WEEKLY - E. O. : 46 Tran Hung Dao Street - Hanoi - D. R. V. - Tel 3841



Fighters in the Liberation Armed Forces of Quang Tri (south of the 17th parallel)

● NORTH VIETNAM PEOPLE STAND FOURSQUARE BEHIND PRESIDENT HO CHI MINH

(Page 4)

● NEW U.S. WAR ESCALATION DULY PUNISHED BY NORTH VIETNAM ARMY AND PEOPLE

— The Vinh Linh Armed Forces and People on Mar. 20 Night and Mar. 21 Pounded South - Based U.S. Artillery Positions Which Had Been Shelling the North across the DMZ : 1,070 U.S. Troops Killed or Wounded; 17 Artillery Pieces, 57 Military Vehicles and 5 Helicopters Destroyed.

— On Mar. 17 and 25 U.S. Destroyers Stoddard and Oxbourn Damaged in Bac Bo Gulf.

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● SINCE MID-MARCH THE L.A.F. HAVE WON REPEATED VICTORIES ON ALL BATTLEFIELDS

The L.A.F. Annihilated and Badly Mauled 6 Enemy Battalions within 3 Days (Mar. 15 - 21, 1967) :

— 3 U.S. Infantry and Motorized Battalions Wiped Out, 54 Tanks and Armoured Cars and 46 Other Military Vehicles Destroyed at Bau Bang (Mar. 19).

— 1 Puppet Battalion Wiped Out 80km East-Northeast of Saigon (Mar. 21).

— 1 U.S. Battalion Knocked Down and Another Decimated 30km Northeast of Tay Ninh (Mar. 21).

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COMMUNIQUE OF THE L.A.F. COMMAND IN EAST NAM BO :

JUNCTION CITY — U.S. BIGGEST OPERATION IN SOUTH VIETNAM — COMPLETELY FOILED

- Over 8,300 Enemy Troops (Mostly C.I.'s) Put out of Action ;
- 692 Military Vehicles (Including 387 M.41 Tanks and M.113 Armoured Cars) and 64 Heavy Guns Destroyed ; 119 Aircraft Shot Down.

The South Vietnam G.P.X. (Liberation Press Agency) on March 25 released the communique of the Command of the Liberation Armed Forces in East Nam Bo on the big victory of the Tay Ninh armed forces and people over Operation Junction City of the U.S. The communique reads :

In an attempt to make good their defeats and extricate themselves from their passivity and predicament on all battlefields in South Vietnam, after several months of preparations the U.S. aggressors on February 22, 1967 launched Operation Junction City in the northern part of Tay Ninh province. They threw into it most of the U.S. mobile forces in East Nam Bo composed of six infantry brigades of Divisions 1, 25 and 4, the 196th Light Infantry Brigade, the 173rd Airborne Brigade, four armoured regiments, 11 artillery battalions, and a regiment and four battalions of sappers in addition to a multi-battalion marine unit and a number of puppet commando units. All told, the raiding force consisted of 45,000 men, more than 800 tanks and armoured cars, over 300 heavy artillery pieces, hundreds of fighter planes and bombers including B-52 strategic bombers, thousands of lorries and hundreds of military cargo planes.

The U.S. commanders boasted that this was their biggest ever operation in South Vietnam having the following objectives :

1. Attack and split up our resistance base, destroy the storages and other installations of the resistance forces.
2. Destroy the leading organs of the resistance forces.
3. Annihilate part of the Liberation Armed Forces.
4. Set up an outer defence perimeter for the puppet army units engaged in the "pacification" campaign and clamp harsh control on the people east Nam Bo and around the Saigon-Cholon area.
5. Secure a military victory of some kind to bolster up the morale of the puppet army and administration and the U.S. troops who were plagued by scepticism and lack of confidence.

However, the Tay Ninh armed forces and people continuing the traditions of the heroic struggle of their native land and the heroic traditions of the Liberation Armed Forces, continuously and powerfully attacked the enemy, forcing them to disrupt the operation by inflicting on them most bitter all-round defeats.

The enemy has failed to achieve any one of the objectives of the operation. Far

from wiping out a single small unit of the Liberation Armed Forces, the U.S. has lost an important part of its forces and a sizeable quantity of war materials.

According to incomplete figures during Operation Junction City and Operation Gadsden which was its initial stage the Tay Ninh armed forces and people put out of action more than 8,300 enemy troops, mostly U.S. troops. These included three motorized battalions, an infantry battalion and 13 infantry companies and a battalion and five companies of artillery completely wiped out. The L.A.F. also heavily decimated 5 infantry battalions one of which belonged to the 173rd Airborne Brigade. 692 military vehicles of various kinds including 387 M.41 tanks and M.113 armoured personnel carriers were destroyed, 119 aircraft shot down and 64 heavy guns destroyed. Of the total force thrown into the operation the enemy's losses accounted for 18% in manpower, 48% in tanks and armoured cars and 32% in heavy artillery.

Shattering to the ground the U.S. hope to set up a defence perimeter for the puppet troops engaged in the "pacification" campaign, the guerrilla war has developed even more widely

(Continued page 2)

PREPARATIONS FOR CELEBRATIONS OF 50th ANNIVERSARY OF GREAT RUSSIAN OCTOBER REVOLUTION

THE Political Bureau of the Vietnam Workers' Party Central Committee has decided that the Party, army and people will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the October Revolution in a manner worthy of the great significance of this glorious historic day.

An Organizing Committee has been set up. Its members include Ton Duc Thang, Vice-President of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, President of the Presidium of the Vietnam Fatherland Front Central Committee and President of the Vietnam-USSR Friendship Association; Le Duong, First Secretary of the Vietnam Workers' Party Central Committee, and many representatives of various political parties and mass organizations in the D.R.V.

COMMUNIQUE OF THE L.A.F. COMMAND IN EAST NAM BO

(Continued from page 1)

In the enemy's rear bases since most of the G.I.s were pinned down and seriously battered on the battlefield. The guerrillas of South Tay Ninh continued to step up their activities, fighting a series of victorious battles in Trang Bang and Gou Dau, destroying dozens of U.S. armoured cars. At the same time the guerrillas war combined with political agitation among enemy troops has induced hundreds of puppet troops at Suoi Da, Cha La, and other areas to desert. Dozens of them have been taken to the enemy such as those in Kien An (south Ben Cat), An-Hoi, Tan Phuoc, Phuoc Hoa (Thu Dau Mot), Phu Chau, Binh My (Tan Uyen), Ben Hoa) were annihilated.

In co-ordination with the attacks in Tay Ninh the L.A.F. struck at the enemy in many other places including areas close to the border as Cay Trac where they wiped out two American companies and a puppet company. Dong Du in Gia Dinh where they inflicted 300 casualties on the U.S. 25th Infantry Division. Duc Hoa (Cholon) where a whole puppet battalion was put out of action, north of Thu Dau Mot where a U.S. company was annihilated, etc. Most successful was the annihilation of a large U.S. unit composed of an infantry battalion and two motorized battalions at Thu Bang on March 19 night, which sowed terror among the men of the U.S. 9th Division who were providing cover for the transportation of troops and material in Operation Junction City.

As for the U.S. scheme to attack and destroy the resistance base and storages it has also failed. The population in the resistance base fought valiantly when the enemy came and resumed production when he had withdrawn. Together with the people the guerrillas constantly strengthened the "fighting villages" and "fighting hamlets" and summed up experiences to increase their fighting capacity. Life in the resistance base quickly returned to normal in the stirring atmosphere of victory.

The U.S. aggressors have met a bitter defeat in Tay Ninh. This has been highlighted by the dismissal of General Jonathan Seaman, commander of the operation,

U.S. BIGGEST OPERATION IN TAY NINH FORECAST TO FAIL

TAY NINH is regarded by the U.S. aggressors as the main target for their second strategic offensive. Since October last year, they have successfully launched three major military operations in this province, involving a total of more than 80,000 troops, in an attempt to destroy the Resistance base and the organs of the South Vietnamese people out of the L.A.F. and to severely beat the puppet army and the U.S. aggressors in the pressure on Saigon-Gia Dinh, and secure a military success of some kind to set the

puppet army and administration on their feet again and produce some psychological effects. With these vast ambitions in mind they have been concentrating the efforts they make on this operation. However, it is just on this battlefield that they have sustained the heaviest ever defeat. Their three operations have been foiled after another, and all their objectives have gone up in smoke.

According to a communiqué issued by the Command of the L.A.F. in East Nam Bo in their actions to counter Operation Junction City (including Operation

Attila) all the troops, nearly half the total number of the tanks and armoured cars, one-third of the heavy guns. Together with their previous defeat in Operation Attila, all the troops, nearly half the total number of the tanks and armoured cars, one-third of the heavy guns. Together with their previous defeat in Operation

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placed by the American soldiers in the punch, cover and fire power of the armor and their passing further decline of their morale. Along with the victory of the armed forces and people of Tay Ninh have come excellent victories.

Reality in Tay Ninh has once more shown the poor combat capabilities of U.S. troops when confronted with such a formidable adversary as the Liberation Army Forces which are valiant as battle hardened and are completely guided by the line of invincible people's war. On the contrary, though the days of bitter fighting the armed forces and people of Tay Ninh have made a big and very important stride forward. The guerrilla war has reached such a stage that the enemy is struck where ever it goes or is stationed and at any time of the day or the night. The guerrillas gave the enemy no moment of respite, holding it under constant strain and wearing it out physically. They combined large-scale attacks with annihilating attacks against small units of the enemy. They wiped out large numbers of infantrymen while destroying an increasing number of armoured cars and shooting down more and more aircraft. They carried out interception attacks to block the enemy's advance and making deep thrusts into its rear, now engaged in sporadic and scattered attacks on the enemy, thus making a new, now fighting big battles with the enemy's units. With such resourceful and courageous methods of fighting, the guerrillas recorded many exploits, succeeded in defending their main forces to move quickly and mount surprise attacks on the enemy, thus making a very important contribution to the recent victories.

Another outstanding point is that the armed forces and people of Tay Ninh have made a long stride forward in their anti-armoured car tactics, having knowledge and powerfully attacking those of the American troops engaged in armoured car operations. In order to win still bigger victories and, with the armed forces and people throughout South Vietnam, make an adequate contribution to the people's war, the U.S. aggressors must launch a second dry-season counter-offensive.

AFTER this stunning blow the U.S. aggressors tried their hardest to conceal their heavy defeats. Nevertheless they could but call off the operation. After sustaining repeated and heavy failures at the hands of the Liberation Army Forces, especially in Dong Pan, Bau Co, Ben Ra and Ta Xing, nearly all U.S. and puppet troops engaged in the operation were ordered to leave the battle area on March 13, 14 and 15. Awaiting themselves of the enemy's disarray the Liberation Army Forces dealt them another stunning blow at Dong Ram, wiping out or decimating two battalions, destroying 72 military vehicles and 14 heavy artillery pieces and shooting down 9 aircraft.

The armed forces and people of Tay Ninh have won big all-round victories which the U.S. has suffered disastrous defeats. However, reactionary and stubborn by nature, the aggressors are plotting a revenge. In fact they are hatching many wicked schemes against the people of East Nam Bo and against Tay Ninh in particular.

Immensely inspired by the great movement, the people of Tay Ninh battle-brothers and villages of Tay Ninh and the whole of East Nam Bo are enhancing their vigilance and making all preparations, ready to foil all operations however big of the enemy against the resistance bases while counter-attacking those of the American troops engaged in armoured car operations. In order to win still bigger victories and, with the armed forces and people throughout South Vietnam, make an adequate contribution to the people's war, the U.S. aggressors must launch a second dry-season counter-offensive.

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D.R.V. FOREIGN MINISTRY EXPOSES U.S. "PEACE" FALLACY

ON March 27, 1967, in his reply to an interview by the Vietnam News Agency, the Spokesman of the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam made the following comments on the publication by the U.S. of documents on the so-called "5 peace efforts" and "5 temporary suspensions of the bombing" by the United States:

AFTER the D.R.V. Foreign Ministry made public President Ho Chi Minh's letter of reply to U.S. President Johnson which exposed the obduracy and perfidy of the U.S. ruling circles, the latter have made tortuous allegations and shown utter embarrassment. The publication of documents on the so-called "5 peace efforts" and the "5 temporary suspensions of the bombing" by the United States is a perfidious trick of the U.S. to get out of its political passivity.

The U.S. wants to reverse black and white. However, no matter how many American-style "peace efforts" it may make public, it cannot change its nature, twenty five or a hundred — it cannot conceal the fact that a nearly half a million strong expeditionary army of

the U.S. is occupying South Vietnam, that it is the U.S. which is committing in Vietnam heinous crimes against mankind, frantically stepping up and expanding its war of aggression in Vietnam, seriously threatening peace in South-east Asia and the world; that it is the U.S. which is seriously encroaching upon the independence, sovereignty, neutrality and territorial integrity of the Kingdoms of Cambodia and Laos and brazenly sabotaging the Geneva Agreements in 1954 on Indo-China and those in 1962 on Laos.

The so-called "peace initiatives" of the U.S. are in fact only the reshaping of worn-out allegations about conditional cessation of the bombing in Vietnam, unconditional discussions, desecration and shelling of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam.

No wonder then that the U.S. did not in the least mention the efforts towards genuine independence and peace made by the governments of the socialist countries, of Cambodian Head of

State Norodom Sihanouk and of governments of many other countries. On the contrary, the U.S. brazenly regards the Manila Conference which is described as a "war council" by public opinion, the schemes to make the United Nations interfere in the Vietnam problem as well as other activities aimed at encouraging aggression as big contributions to peace.

The U.S. ruling circles have also clamoured about the so-called "5 temporary suspensions of the bombing in North Vietnam" with a view to concealing their serious escalation in the bombing and shelling of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and misleading public opinion which is energetically demanding to end unconditionally the bombing and shelling of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam.

The U.S. manoeuvre in making public documents on the so-called "5 peace efforts" and "5 temporary suspensions of the bombing" in North Vietnam have further exposed to public opinion the obdurate and perfidious aggressive nature of the U.S. and is making it more strongly condemned by public opinion and increasing its isolation.

It is as clear as daylight that the U.S. is committing aggression against South Vietnam and bombing and shelling the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, and that the Vietnamese people are victims of the aggression. The whole world has vehemently condemned the U.S. imperialists' war of aggression.

Red Cross A Target for U.S. Air Attacks

ON March 17 afternoon, Dr. J. M. Krivine, general surgeon, Dean of faculty of Paris Medical College, Dr. G.B. Neelands, Professor of biochemistry at the University of California University, and members of the Investigating Team of the Bertrand Russell Tribunal, and Professor M. Cornil, Belgian lawyer, Pres-

ident of the Brussels Lawyers' Guild and member of International Committee for Investigation in Vietnam, met Vietnamese and foreign journalists in Hanoi.

Relating his trip lasting nearly a month to various places in Viet Tri, Vinh Phuc, Tay Ninh, Nam Dinh, Thanh Hoa, Nghe An, Ha Tinh, Quang Binh, Vinh Linh and even to areas where fierce fighting was taking place, Dr. Krivine provided a host of hard facts about U.S. criminal massacre of civilians and bombing of hospitals, schools and churches.

General Surgeon, Dr. Krivine showed particular concern over the disastrous effects of U.S. chemical warfare in various provinces and said that the Red Cross provided a host of hard facts about U.S. criminal massacre of civilians and bombing of hospitals, schools and churches.

- (1) The Ba Don sanatorium (Quang Binh Province), wounded on Aug. 11, 1966 at Vinh Trac (Vinh Linh).
- (2) Nguyen Thi Nhat, 3, wounded on Aug. 11, 1966 at Vinh Trac (Vinh Linh).
- (3) Traces of steel pellets of U.S. shrapnel bombs hitting the wall of Tran Tay's house (Quang Binh).
- (4) Nguyen Thi Mai, 14, wounded on July 15, 1966 in Ly Ninh hamlet (Quang Binh).

Principal Crime of the U.S. Imperialists in Vietnam: TO VIOLATE A PEOPLE'S SOVEREIGNTY AND NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE

ON March 24, 1967, a press conference was held by the Third Investigating Team of the International Tribunal set up by Lord Bertrand Russell to judge U.S. war crimes in Vietnam, and the Delegation of the International Commission for Investigation in Vietnam. The conference, presided over by Mr. Pham Van Bach, Vice-president of the Investigation Commission on U.S. War Crimes in Vietnam, was attended by numerous home and foreign correspondents. Several members of the first two commissions spoke at the conference.

After voicing strong condemnation of the crimes perpetrated by the American against the Vietnamese people, crimes that go far beyond what we could have imagined," Mr. Lelio Basso, Third Investigating Team, deputy to the Italian Parliament and member of the B.R. Russell International Tribunal, said:

"It is here in Vietnam that following my investigation on U.S. war crimes, I have arrived at this conclusion: those crimes, however serious, are a necessary consequence of the principal crime, which is outright aggression aimed at suppressing the Vietnamese people's right to self-determination."

"In this connection, let us read the condemnation pronounced by the Nuremberg Tribunal against the Nazi war criminals: 'To start a war

of aggression is not only an international crime, it is the supreme international crime, which differs from the other war crimes only in that it contains them all'."

Drawing a parallel between U.S. present aggression in

Vietnam and the Nazi aggression in Europe, Mr. Basso declared: "Of course the circumstances of aggression are different, for the situation is different. This time, aggression has taken place according

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News from LAOS

Prince SOUPHANOUVONG

THE LAO ARMED FORCES
AND PEOPLE WILL CERTAINLY FOIL ALL NEW
U.S. — PUPPET WAR PLOTS AND PLANS

During his recent visit to the liberated zone of Laos, a correspondent of Radio The Voice of Vietnam had a recorded interview with Prince Souphanouvong, chairman of the C.C. of the New Lao Haksat and the Premier of the Lao Tripartite National Union Government, on problems relating to the Lao situation. Below are excerpts from Prince Souphanouvong's answers.

12,000 enemy troops (as against 7,000 in 1965). In particular, they exploited the myth of U.S. air supremacy by shooting down 203 U.S. pirate planes in 1960 alone. By Feb. 2, 1967 all told, 471 U.S. planes had been brought down or destroyed in Laos. In the political field, confusion and corruption developed among the U.S. stooges in an extremely serious manner. Their inner contradictions deepened and grew more acute.

In 1966, parallel with the escalation and expansion of the war of aggression against Vietnam and the intensification of provocative attacks against the Kingdom of Cambodia, the U.S. imperialists stepped up their special war in Laos. However, the patriotic forces and people of Laos, closely united and fighting resolutely, repelled all plots and acts of aggression by the U.S. imperialists and the traitorous puppet clique to ignominious failure, driving them into passivity and confusion, militarily and politically.

"Last year, the Lao armed forces and people foiled the enemy military attack on the liberated zone, destroyed many important gangs of bandits, wiped out nearly

"Although they had sustained defeat after defeat, the U.S. imperialists still stubbornly continued to rush headlong into the war path. But since the beginning of this year, the U.S. people and their armed forces have dealt hard blows at them and their lackeys and won great victories. In 1967, the Lao people's anti-U.S. struggle will be harder and fiercer. But under the correct leadership of the New Lao Haksat, with the tradition of undaunted struggle, the Lao armed forces and people, always vigilant and united as one, by means of sacrifices and hardships, will certainly foil all war plots and plans of the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys, and win glorious victories.

"To put it in a nutshell, the U.S. imperialists must respect and strictly implement the 1961 Geneva Agreements on Laos and the agreements reached by the 3 factions in Laos, end their aggressive attack intervention in Laos and let the Lao people settle their internal affairs by peaceful negotiations between the parties concerned."

IN THE LIBERATED REGIONS OF LAOS
1. Prince Souphanouvong, President of the New Lao Haksat and Vice-President of the Lao National Union Tripartite Government, visiting a village.
2. Guerrillas setting a spiked trap.
3. The harvest is in full swing.
4. A complementary education class.

News from CAMBODIA

HEAD OF STATE NORODOM Sihanouk CALLS
ON THE ENTIRE KHMER PEOPLE RESOLUTELY
TO OPOSE THE UNITED STATES

In a press conference on March 13, 1967, Cambodia's Head of State Norodom Sihanouk vehemently denounced and condemned the U.S. for plotting a coup d'etat in Cambodia to murder its head of state, and compel its government to give up its policy of peace and neutrality in an attempt to turn this country into a U.S. colony.

After pointing out that the CIA has master-minded subversive plots in several Asian and African countries, Head of State Norodom Sihanouk revealed that recently an American called Maclean has disclosed a CIA plot to use

reactionaries in Cambodia to carry out acts of sabotage and subversion. These reactionaries have cooperated with American henchmen in South Vietnam to prepare a coup d'etat in Cambodia, aimed at murdering its Head of State Norodom Sihanouk.

According to Maclean, the CIA has plotted to overthrow Indonesia's President Sukarno for the last two years.

Head of State Norodom Sihanouk stressed that together with the Khmer people he will fight to the end and will never step back or change his policy.

MAIN FACTS AND EVENTS IN MARCH 1967

1. anniversary of Indo-Chinese People's Conference.

2. — Statement from D.R.V. Foreign Ministry condemning new U.S. war escalation.

— Attacks on U.S. 175-mm artillery positions at Gio Linh (Quang Tri).

3. Ambush on the enemy at Ta Kim, 5 km northwest of Huong Ho, wiping out 205 men including 180 Americans.

5. L.A.F. mortar attack on Chu Lai air base destroying 32 jets and wiping out 165 Americans (mostly Air Force officers).

8. Strike by Australian seamen at major ports throughout the country in protest against U.S. arms shipment to South Vietnam.

9. Violent attack on a column of enemy troops involved in Operation Junction City at Ben Rai (northwestern Tay Ninh) completely destroying a C.P. and 300 G.I.'s.

10. Attack on 2 U.S. companies northwest of Bau Co inflicting 70 casualties on them, destroying 52 military vehicles and four 175-mm howitzers.

Surprise attack on Dong Phan base camp (on Highway No 4) wiping out more than 300 G.I.'s, destroying 152 military vehicles (including 42 tanks and armoured personnel carriers) and blasting eleven 105-mm howitzers and 166-mm mortars.

13 — Attacks on 3 puppet positions at Huong My (Ben Tre) wiping out 300 men.

14 — Publication by N.E.F. permanent representation in North Vietnam of the pamphlet on the U.S. "burn all, kill all, destroy all" policy in South Vietnam.

15 — Publication by D.R.V. Foreign Ministry of Johnson's letter to President Ho Chi Minh and the latter's reply.

Attack on 2nd Brigade of 25th Infantry at Ban Du wiping out 300 G.I.'s, burning an ammunition dump and a gasoline depot, and destroying to aircraft, 30 military vehicles, tanks, 20 mm guns, 100 barracks and the whole communication center.

19 — 77th anniversary of Vietnam's Nation-Wide Anti-U.S. Day.

Expatriation of a U.S. multi-battalion force at Bau Bang (4th time) composed of 3 infantry and armoured battalions, destroying 100 military vehicles (including 54 tanks and armoured cars).

D.R.V. grows that they have decided their war strategy in Vietnam to a degree. By allowing U.S. pirate ships to take off from Thailand and fly raiding missions over the D.R.V., the reactionary Thanoem-Phraha clique has publicly exposed themselves as the enemy of the Vietnamese people.

The Radio emphasized: "The Thai people are resolved to fight shoulder to shoulder with the Vietnamese people to drive the U.S. aggressors out of South-East Asia. They will resolutely remove U.S. military bases in Thailand."

21. Complete destruction of one battalion and serious damage to another at Dong Nam (30 km northeast of Tay Ninh); 72 military vehicles, fourteen 105-mm and 155-mm howitzers destroyed, and 9 planes shot down.

— Shelling of U.S. artillery positions at Doc Mieu (Gio Linh) destroying seventeen 175-mm guns, 57 military vehicles and 5 choppers.

24. Ambush on an enemy military convoy between Chu Lai and Da Nang destroying 84 vehicles.

26. New street demonstration in Saigon by 3,000 Buddhist monks and believers against Thieu-Ky Junta.

27. — Statement from D.R.V. Foreign Ministry spokesman that U.S. Thuan's declaration and on the so-called "25 peace efforts of the U.S."

— March by 15,000 Londoners against U.S. aggression in Vietnam.

Principal Crime...

(Continued from page 3)

to new methods, i.e. an attempt to realize what the U.S. has been doing, for this destruction is no isolated case but a part of a general policy. I wonder what the U.S. should do to make my compatriots realize the reality of the country. The more the U.S. intensifies the bombing, the more production of the country will be destroyed. The more schools will be built, and the more resolved the Vietnamese people will be.

Asked if U.S. aggression in South Vietnam is really prompted by the desire to defend freedom, as claimed by the U.S. leaders, Mr. Hugh Mansfield drew a comparison between the two things he had observed in the D.R.V. and what is going on in the United States: "I would like to ask my own compatriots why it is that poverty is rampant in a rich and powerful country, whereas in the U.S. the needs of all her people?"

Professor Jose Rodriguez, a Chilean lawyer and member of the International Information Commission, said:

"In Vietnam, I have visited towns and villages that had been completely razed, where not a single house remained. I saw the difference with earthquakes is that here the criminal is the aggressor. He is neither heaven, nor earth, nor the Devil, and he has the cheek to say that he is doing only at military targets." Professor Rodriguez branded the U.S. propaganda as a lie, saying that the U.S. aircraft attacking only military targets.

"The essential problem he said is that a people has the right to live in accordance with its wishes and aspirations. Voicing condemnation of the U.S. aggression, he said: "The world must know that it is facing a tragedy. The United Nations which the Americans themselves had condemned and fought against. There is plenty of evidence of this."

After recounting what he had seen concerning the crimes committed by U.S. aircraft,

the dead shall be avenged. I wonder if my compatriots realize what the U.S. has been doing, for this destruction is no isolated case but a part of a general policy. I wonder what the U.S. should do to make my compatriots realize the reality of the country. The more the U.S. intensifies the bombing, the more production of the country will be destroyed. The more schools will be built, and the more resolved the Vietnamese people will be.

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After recounting what he had seen concerning the crimes committed by U.S. aircraft,

against the people of Vietnam, air Pak In Kon, Secretary General of the Association of Korean Jurists, posed this question: "What are the reasons behind U.S. actions? And he said: 'The heart of the matter is that the U.S. imperialists want to enslave the people of Vietnam. To attain this end, they have shrunk from nothing in order to intensify the war, to resort to the most heinous crimes, to despoil peace proposals. The U.S. is not only despoiling the coats of law, but also the souls of men when they put the masks of beautiful girls'."

The Korean jurist stressed that "aggression is the most serious crime condemned by international law. It has been said over and over again that the U.S. imperialists have committed in Vietnam crimes against peace and humanity. This is entirely true. But what is the origin of their crimes? One may assert that the crime perpetrated by the U.S. imperialists is essentially that of aggression."

The last speaker was the French jurist, Joe Nordman, Secretary General of the International Association of Democratic Jurists. Dealing with a burning question, he declared:

"At the time the present conference is being held, world opinion is interested first and foremost in President Ho Chi Minh's letter to U.S. President Johnson in which he stated that the U.S. has just turned the country into a battlefield. He said that the U.S. has not only turned the country into a battlefield, but also the souls of men when they put the masks of beautiful girls'."

On Mar. 16, the L.A.F. put out of action 46 G.I.'s, 5 km northwest of Khe Sanh.

On Mar. 17, the L.A.F. annihilated 14 ammunition trucks near Doc Mieu in co-ordination with a V.P.A. artillery pounding from north of the demilitarized zone to punish the U.S. artillery position at Gio Linh.

On Mar. 24, the L.A.F. destroyed 115 American

Repeated Victories...

(Continued from page 3)

Thus the Americans suffered heavy defeats on the main battlefield. What was their situation in other theatres?

In the coastal plain, from Binh Dinh province north-

In Binh Dinh province, on Mar. 6, the L.A.F. put out action nearly one whole U.S. battalion in Phu My district.

In Quang Ngai province, on the night of Mar. 11, the L.A.F. completely wiped out a puppet security guard and militia training centre, 2 km from the provincial town.

On the night of Mar. 17, the L.A.F. almost entirely knocked down 1 puppet company in a position 60 km from the provincial town near the sea.

In Quang Nam province:

According to the latest news from the National Press Agency, on the second attack against Da Nang base on 12th March (Mar. 15), the L.A.F. destroyed 280 G.I.'s, knocked 16 G.I.'s, 31 military vehicles and various kinds, and set fire 1 dump of 2 million litres of gasoline.

On Mar. 24, the L.A.F. annihilated nearly a whole truck company just leaving Chu Lai for Da Nang. According to G.P.A. 127 military vehicles were destroyed, 2 companies annihilated.

In Thua Thien province:

On the night of Mar. 10, the L.A.F. thoroughly smashed Phu Thua military subsector in Phu Vang district; 1 security guard company was done away with and 4 platoons heavily decimated.

In Quang Tri province:

On Mar. 16, the L.A.F. put out of action 46 G.I.'s, 5 km northwest of Khe Sanh.

On Mar. 21, the L.A.F. annihilated 14 ammunition trucks near Doc Mieu in co-ordination with a V.P.A. artillery pounding from north of the demilitarized zone to punish the U.S. artillery position at Gio Linh.

On Mar. 24, the L.A.F. destroyed 115 American

soldiers 2 km northwest of the provincial town.

On the night of Mar. 20, many positions north of the provincial town were mortared. 62 G.I.'s were killed and wounded.

Despite all their efforts to "pacify" the coastal areas of these four provinces to the north, the U.S. imperialists, as Chu Lai and Da Nang, the Yankees could not bring about any success. On the night of Mar. 11, being attacked three times within 17 days (Feb. 27, Mar. 5 and 15), the loss of 1,750 Americans killed and wounded and the destruction of 122 planes and 232 military vehicles together with the above mentioned setbacks spell the doom of the U.S. strategic designs in the South Vietnamese as well.

In the Mekong River Delta

The U.S. 4th Infantry Brigade based in Quang River Delta did not fare any better than other U.S. troops.

It was soundly beaten while splitting in small groups to help the puppets in their "pacification" task.

On the night of Mar. 7, the L.A.F. mortared the 3rd Brigade base in Chau Thanh district. My Tho province, inflicting upon it more than 100 casualties.

On Mar. 11, over 70 others were put out of action in the "pacification" task.

On the night of Mar. 14, 1 platoon was completely wiped out, 2 km southwest of Saigon.

On the night of Mar. 16, the L.A.F. attacked an enemy encampment at Ram Kien, knocking down 1 company.

On Mar. 20, the L.A.F. assaulted an enemy base 15 km west of Saigon. The Yankees admitted 99 killed and wounded.

Thus the more the enemy gets involved in the Mekong Delta, the more he is bogged down and doomed to failure.

U.S. Biggest...

(Continued from page 2)

etc., also came to grief. By the resourceful co-ordination among their various kind of troops and by their versatile and creative forms and methods of fighting, combining large-scale and small-unit actions, the South Vietnamese armed forces and people have acquired very abundant experiences, enabling them to foil all enemy operations, on any scale and of any size. It is clear that in countering the enemy operations, the L.A.F. have compelled the enemy troops to fight battles on their own terms. In this way they have driven the enemy into the defensive from beginning to end. So much so that when the raiders move out to search and destroy the L.A.F. the raiders are nowhere to be found, but whenever the L.A.F. give the attack, the enemy is only bound to be wiped out.

The L.A.F. have not only

defeated the aggressors on raiding operations but also attacked them right at their bases or deep in their big cities. In the current operations, since Oct. 1966, according to still incomplete figures, the L.A.F. have launched more than 50 big attacks on the enemy bases, half as many again as in the last dry season, wiping out more than 10,000 troops, including 12 whole battalions. The hammering blows they struck at the enemy bases in Long Binh, the Lan Son Ngu Pleiku, Da Nang, Chu Lai, Da Nang, Gio Linh and on carrier. The same weight as those administered to the enemy bases in the first three months of this year alone, and only in some battles in the past year, the L.A.F. put out of action 6 battalions, 12 companies, 100 battalions and dozens of companies. In the Mekong Delta, the L.A.F. have annihilated 14 ammunition trucks near Doc Mieu in co-ordination with a V.P.A. artillery pounding from north of the demilitarized zone to punish the U.S. artillery position at Gio Linh.

Whether on the main operational theatre of the enemy's second dry-season offensive, or not, the South Vietnamese armed forces and people have always scored brilliant victories.

In East Nam Bo, with the Tay Ninh and Thu Dau Mot, G.I. Dnh victories which follow the U.S. operations — Attleboro, Junction City and Cedar Falls — the L.A.F. wiped out nearly 15,000 enemy troops, mostly Americans. In the Western Highlands, the L.A.F. have won two successive victories on the banks of Tay River, the L.A.F. wiped out or decimated one battalion and nearly 30 companies of enemy troops. In the plain of South Trung Bo (Central Vietnam), in Quang Nam province, the L.A.F. have wiped out or decimated one battalion and dozens of companies. In the Mekong Delta, the L.A.F. have annihilated 14 ammunition trucks near Doc Mieu in co-ordination with a V.P.A. artillery pounding from north of the demilitarized zone to punish the U.S. artillery position at Gio Linh.

Maintaining their offensive the South Vietnamese armed forces and people have inflicted heavy losses on the enemy, and they have never been bogged down in the bog in their second dry-season counter-offensive. The U.S. aggressors are committing to

battles in Binh Thuan, Binh Thuan and Lam Dong, wiping out or inflicting heavy losses on the enemy. In the U.S. operations — Attleboro, Junction City and Cedar Falls — the L.A.F. wiped out nearly 15,000 enemy troops, mostly Americans. In the Western Highlands, the L.A.F. have won two successive victories on the banks of Tay River, the L.A.F. wiped out or decimated one battalion and nearly 30 companies of enemy troops. In the plain of South Trung Bo (Central Vietnam), in Quang Nam province, the L.A.F. have wiped out or decimated one battalion and dozens of companies. In the Mekong Delta, the L.A.F. have annihilated 14 ammunition trucks near Doc Mieu in co-ordination with a V.P.A. artillery pounding from north of the demilitarized zone to punish the U.S. artillery position at Gio Linh.

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the current campaign, twice as many troops, three times as many cannons and mortars, dozens of enemy soldiers. In Quang Tri and Thua Thien, by their powerful attacks, the L.A.F. have struck fear into the enemy's heart and destroyed dozens of U.S. companies. Most recently on March 20, in retaliation for U.S. use of gas based in South Vietnam to shell North artillery units of the Vietnamese People's Army, in co-ordination with the Thua Thien and Binh Thuan people of Vinh Linh struck hard, wiping out 1,070 Yankees and destroying 17 artillery pieces, 57 military vehicles and 5 helicopters in Doc Mieu.

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News from THAILAND

REACTIONARY THAI RULERS' SUBSERVENCE
TO U.S. AGGRESSORS IN VIETNAM CONDEMNED

COMMENTING on public administration by reactionary Thai rulers that they have allowed the U.S. Air Force to use bases in Thailand for attacks against North Vietnam, the People of Thailand on March 14, sternly condemned the reactionary Thanoem-Phra-

phas clique for trampling upon the Thai people's aspiration, betraying national interests and giving the U.S. imperialists in their aggression against the D.R.V.

The Radio pointed out: "The use of air bases in Thailand by the U.S. imperialists for air strikes against the

SOUTH VIETNAM MILITARY SITUATION SINCE MID-MARCH

REPEATED VICTORIES OF THE L.A.F.

IN ALL THEATRES OF OPERATIONS

The L.A.F. Annihilated and Badly Mauled 6 Enemy Battalions within 3 Days (Mar. 15-21, 1967):

• 3 U.S. Infantry and Motorized Battalions Wiped Out, 54 Tanks and Armoured Cars and 46 Other Military Vehicles Destroyed at Bau Bang (Mar. 19).

• 1 Puppet Battalion Wiped Out 80km East-Northeast of Saigon (Mar. 21).

• 1 U.S. Battalion Knocked Down and Another Decimated 30km Northeast of Tay Ninh (Mar. 21).

BAU BANG, Biggest U.S. Failure Since the Dry Season Began

WITHIN 48 hours, the L.A.F. and people in South Vietnam, successfully checking the second U.S. "dry-season counter-offensive", dealt two telling blows at the enemy at Bau Bang (Thu Dau Mot) and Dong Rum (Tay Ninh) while Operation Junction City was going bankrupt. These were the biggest U.S. failures since the beginning of the dry season.

With the Bau Bang victory, the L.A.F. set a new record in the number of enemy troops wiped out in a single battle: in an hour, 3 U.S. battalions of infantry and motorized troops were put out of action, over 200 military vehicles destroyed. The Dong Rum victory was not less brilliant: in 30 minutes, a U.S. battalion was put out of action, another heavily decimated. These offensives against enemy encampments showed the strides taken by the L.A.F. in surprise attack and annihilation tactics.

Gallant in action, unheard and unseen in their manoeuvres and promoting the surprise factor, the L.A.F. were able from the start to hit enemy units, disrupting the U.S. command and crippling its fire power set-up, thereby wiping out enemy forces.

Bau Bang and Dong Rum proved that the L.A.F. kept the initiative in all theatres, even in the areas where the enemy concentrated their troops. The G.I.'s were reduced to defensive actions. While they were beaten in Kontum, Binh Dinh... in their bases at Chu Lai, Da Nang and their artillery emplacements at Gio Linh and on Highway No. 9, were violently bombed by our artillery. While Operation

Junction City was being fought off, the base of Bau Bang and the Dong Rum encampments were fiercely attacked. The enemy had to cope with several onslaughts at a time. The 9th I.D. sent to the rescue of the 1st I.D. was badly mauled.

With the 4th victory at Bau Bang, the victories at Dong Rum, Da Nang, Tay Nguyen and Highway No. 9, the L.A.F. applied flexible and creatively varied operational tactics and knocked out an important part of enemy forces. They could annihilate in a single engagement a whole battalion or even a combat group.

The L.A.F. not only wiped out U.S. infantry units but also modern war means, destroying hundreds of planes, military vehicles among them tanks and armoured cars, and tens of big guns. They took as targets enemy encampments, particularly H.Q.'s, transmission and radar centres, electronic installations, war material. They tried particularly to hit officers and technicians. In a word, they wanted to strike at major military forces, elite troops. Losses caused to forces. Losses caused to technical units and material, H.Q.'s, and elite forces seriously impaired enemy military potential. Such was the significance of the Bau Bang and Dong Rum victories.

The victory of Bau Bang has foreshadowed the annihilation of bigger U.S. units. Bau Bang and Dong Rum have given the lie to U.S. propaganda that American military progress had forced the L.A.F. to fall back on small-unit actions and guerrilla warfare. They foretold punishment for the aggressors and a severe warning against their new "escalations".

IN Mar. 1967, the Tay Ninh L.A.F. foiled the biggest ever American "search-and-destroy" operation (Junction City) inflicting upon the enemy 8,300 casualties.

Defeated in Tay Ninh, the 2nd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division hurriedly withdrew to its base at Dung Du, Cu Chi district, only to receive another hammer blow at

18.45 hours on Mar. 15. With artillery fire, the L.A.F. put out of action more than 300 of the enemy, demolished and damaged 10 aircraft, 36 military vehicles of various kinds, three 203mm guns and the whole signal service of the brigade command.

The Yankees were still clamouring that in the Junction City sweep they had blotted the L.A.F. base off

the map and compelled the adversary to split his forces and engage in small operations, when:

On Mar. 19, the L.A.F. smashed a combat team comprising 1 infantry and 2 motorized battalions along with 100 military vehicles of various types at Bau Bang, 70km north of Saigon.

On Mar. 21, they ground down another U.S. battalion and whittled away another, 30km north of Tay Ninh.

On the same day, they knocked out a puppet rangers battalion between Gio Rai and Suoi Cat, Bien Hoa province, 80km east-northeast of Saigon.

(Continued page 7)

A voluntary carrier (with his bike) in combat readiness



NEW U.S. ESCALATION DUEL PUNISHED BY NORTH VIETNAM ARMY AND PEOPLE

— The Vinh Linh Armed Forces and People on Mar. 20 Night and Mar. 21 Pounded South-Based U.S. Artillery Positions Which Had Been Shelling the North across the DMZ. 1,070 U.S. Troops Killed or Wounded, 1,070 U.S. Military Vehicles and 5 Helicopters Destroyed
— On Mar. 17 and 25 U.S. Destroyers Stoddard and Osborn Damaged in Bac Bo Gulf

TO retrieve their setbacks in the war of aggression against South Vietnam, parallel with intensified air and naval attacks on North Vietnam, since Feb. 22, 1967, the U.S. aggressors have been using long-range artillery based south of the DMZ to shell the North, perpetrating crimes against the population on D.R.V. territory.

On Feb. 26, the Liaison Mission of the V.P.A. High Command energetically protested against this practical act of the U.S. aggressors. On Mar. 1, the D.R.V. Foreign Ministry issued a statement condemning their new, extremely serious act of war escalation. The U.S. aggressors, however, obstinately continued perpetrating crimes against the population on D.R.V. territory.

To punish this new U.S. act of war escalation, at 18:20 hours on Mar. 20, immediately after an artillery shelling was unleashed by the enemy from south of the DMZ, artillerymen of the Vietnam People's Army, in close co-ordination with the people of Vinh Linh, violently returned the fire and silenced the enemy guns. V.P.A. artillery accurately pounded U.S. gun sites and the stationing area of a U.S. marine battalion. The enemy artillery emplacements became a mess. Their gasoline dumps were set on fire. The whole enemy area was engulfed by fire and ripped by shell explosions. The American aggressors had not yet recovered from their panic when next morning V.P.A. gunners renewed their attacks, driving them into even greater confusion.

According to preliminary reports, the Vinh Linh armed forces and people wiped out 1,070 G.I.'s, destroyed 17 artillery pieces including four 175-mm guns, 57 military vehicles of various types, including 22 armoured cars, 22 biplanes, 5 choppers, and set a gasoline dump and large quantities of military equipment on fire.

Two days earlier, on Mar. 17, at 14:30 hours an intruding U.S. aircraft was brought down over northern Quang Binh, 15 minutes later, the U.S. destroyer Stoddard tried to retaliate but was hit and damaged by the local armed forces and people. It hurriedly fled southward.

Eight days later, on Mar. 25, the U.S. destroyer Osborn attempted to bombard the Vinh Linh area, but was immediately punished by the local armed forces and people. It had to be sent to Subic Bay naval port in the Philippines for repair as its control room, a storage room and part of the radar system guiding its batteries were damaged.

During the same period in which they meted out punishments to the U.S. aggressors for their artillery and naval bombardment of the North, the local armed forces and people brought down 6 aircraft in the 3 days ending Mar. 26, 2 of them respectively at night-11 and midnight.

VIETNAM COURIER